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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

3. Moroccan nationalists call for demonstrations on 20 August:

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Leaflets are being distributed by Moroccan nationalists in the native quarter of Casablanca calling for demonstrations on 20 August, the second anniversary of the dethronement of former sultan Mohamed ben Youssef, to be followed by a week of general strikes throughout Morocco.

Meanwhile, the French settlers are consolidating their forces in an effort to have Resident General Grandval replaced. General Duval, army commander in Morocco, is being mentioned as his successor.



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COMMENT

Widespread demonstrations on 20 August would probably result in considerable bloodshed--particularly if by that time Paris has not announced a policy for Morocco or replaced Grandval. Removal of the present sultan, Mohamed ben Arafa, the minimum demand of Moroccan nationalists, would on the other hand incite the French settlers to resort to violence.

French premier Faure recently told American representatives in Paris that Grandval is his personal choice as resident general, and he intends to back him.